



**St Joseph Catholic Elementary**

**School/Parent Guide to the First Grade Curriculum**

**August, 2010**

Philosophy of Catholic Education  
**St. Joseph Elementary School**

"I am the way, and the truth, and the Life; no one comes to the Father but through me." John, 14:6). We believe Jesus is the reason for our existence and the Gospel message is central to the integration of religious truths and values with life.

The primary responsibility for education resides with the parents. The choice of Catholic education is further implemented by the faculty, staff and parish community. In striving to become a responsible Christian adult, each student is challenged to achieve his/her potential in all areas.

The children are called to grow in their faith and to develop a wholesome regard for self as well as a Christian respect for others through service, message, community and worship. By discussion and comment, the religious and secular perspectives, each complementing the other, offer a deeper and fuller picture of reality.

Our Philosophy of Education clearly states that the Gospel message is central in our school. To this end, all of us, faculty, staff, administration, priests, parents and students model for each other the example of Christian life. Our Philosophy is our guide for all decisions made at St. Joseph.



## SCHOOL WIDE GOALS

The specific goals of St. Joseph's Catholic Elementary School follow the curriculum recommended by the State of Missouri and the Archdiocese of St. Louis for elementary schools, with some additional emphasis upon individual needs at all grade levels. The ultimate goal of our school for its students is the Catholic-Christian formation of the child. The more immediate goal is to provide for each student's unique intellectual, spiritual, moral, emotional, aesthetical, physical and social needs.

The primary focus of St. Joseph's Catholic Elementary School is to teach and model our Catholic faith to the children of St. Joseph's Parish.

"We strive to provide a background of the basics in an atmosphere where the fourfold purpose of Christian education is realized; to develop the Catholic message at the student's age level; to live in a community the way Jesus wants each of His children to live; and to be of service to each person in a manner that is honest and peaceful"\*  
(\*"To Teach As Jesus Did" - Bishops' message on Pastoral Education)

1. Provide students with the knowledge, understanding, and practice of the Catholic Faith which will lead them toward a mature faith commitment, which includes living by Gospel values and actively sharing faith.
2. Help students demonstrate a commitment to justice through responsible and accountable decisions founded on Christian principles.
3. Create a welcoming atmosphere where students will listen to and show respect for the diversity of others' thoughts, opinions, and cultures.
4. Develop an environment where students will be able to connect knowledge to real life situations by making responsible decisions that allow them to cope with life's challenges.
5. Foster an environment that encourages the students to show intellectual development by demonstrating their ability in the use of curiosity, analytical thinking, effective communication skills, and the responsibility for one's own learning.
6. Provide students with the opportunities to experience spiritual, creative, intellectual, and emotional growth.



## ART SCHOOL WIDE GOALS

- Students will recognize, through aesthetic awareness, that art is part of everything in their environment.
- Students will understand that there are various purposes for creating art.
- Students will develop awareness that there are different responses to specific artworks.
- Students will examine their own artwork and that of other people, times, and places in order to learn that the visual arts have specific historical and cultural relationships.
- Students will relate works of art to the historical and cultural contexts in which they were created.
- Students will study about artists and their contributions and ways of communicating cultural values and beliefs.
- Students will select and use subject matter, symbols, and ideas to communicate meaning through the use of higher order thinking skills and creative problem solving processes.
- Students will learn to examine objects and events in their lives in an historical progression.
- Students will learn to use all materials and tools in a safe manner.
- Students will realize the relationship of visual art to all other disciplines.
- Students will understand that the arts provide lifelong learning that may both a vocational and professional.

## LANGUAGE ARTS SCHOOL WIDE GOALS

- Students will demonstrate knowledge of the five-step writing process (prewriting, first draft, revise, edit, final).
- Students will use developmentally appropriate vocabulary in speaking and writing.
- Students will communicate clearly in speaking and writing.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to use Standard English in speaking and writing.
- Students will use correct spelling in written work.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to use critical thinking and listening skills in oral and written language.
- Students will use various strategies to help them read and comprehend information.
- Students will recognize and show an appreciation for genres of literature.
- Students will demonstrate proficiency in silent and oral reading for pleasure and information.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to use technology, reference material, and a variety of resources as needed.

## MATH SCHOOL WIDE GOALS

- Students will apply knowledge of numbers and operations to successfully solve problems.
- Students will use models to transfer math concepts to concrete math problem solving situations.
- Students will identify two and three-dimensional objects.
- Students will use symbols to represent unknowns in mathematical equations.
- Students will demonstrate and apply knowledge of standard and metric measurements.
- Students will show evidence of understanding in probability concepts.
- Students will collect, organize, and interpret data in various types of graphs.
- Students will demonstrate the ability to solve problems using various methods and adapt the strategies to new situations.
- Students will accept and show appreciation for differences in strategies in problem solving.
- Students will recognize mathematical progression of skills.

## MUSIC SCHOOL WIDE GOALS

- Students will use their voices to sing God's praises.
- Students will value and respect their own musical efforts and those of others. They will appreciate various types of music and will conduct themselves well as performers and as audience members.
- Students will read music notation and will exercise musical creativity by composing short pieces, writing lyrics, and improvising melodies and accompaniments.
- Students will develop skills in playing pitched and unpitched rhythm instruments, recorders, and tone chimes.
- Students will identify by sight and sound the various families of instruments (string, woodwind, brass and percussion).
- Students will listen to music with focused attention, and will identify dynamic levels, tempos, high and low pitches, and a melody line; they will use appropriate music vocabulary to describe music.
- Students will research the lives, times, and contributions of various composers and the history of opera and related subjects.
- Students will understand music relative to its historical and cultural significance, and will understand the relationships between music and the other arts.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION SCHOOL WIDE GOALS

- Students will develop an awareness of the body and its function through movement and exercise.
- Students will develop an awareness and understanding of the importance of life-long physical fitness.
- Students will be provided with opportunities to learn life-long recreational skills .
- Students will understand the rules of the games and sports played.
- Students will develop sportsmanship and respect toward one another.
- Students will participate in organized and unorganized play in a cooperative spirit.
- Students will recognize that physical exercise is an important aspect of a healthy mental attitude.
- Students will acquire and develop desirable traits of health concepts and a wholesome, well-integrated personality.

## RELIGION SCHOOL WIDE GOALS

- Students will demonstrate by word and action a commitment to living the Gospel values.
- Students will apply knowledge of Catholic dogma, Scripture, Church history, and traditions to their daily experiences.
- Students will lead a sacramental life.
- Students will experience planning and participating in liturgies.
- Students will develop an ongoing personal relationship with God.
- Students will join in the mission spirit of the Church.
- Students will recognize their responsibility to help build a world of peace and justice.
- Students will show respect for God's creation.
- Students will show a readiness to share their faith.

## SCIENCE SCHOOL WIDE GOALS

- Students will apply knowledge of the five-step scientific method and apply it to specific scientific investigations.
- Students will be able to explore and integrate physical, earth and life sciences and connect them with related social and technological themes.
- Students will be able to investigate how living things interact with their environment and with each other.

## SOCIAL STUDIES SCHOOL WIDE GOALS

- Students will identify and describe the economic, cultural, political and ecological connections within the global community.
- Students will recognize and exercise their responsibilities of citizenship in a democracy.
- Students will research our nation's past and relate it to the ever-changing world.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the five fundamental themes of geography:
  1. location
  2. description of place
  3. people and their environment
  4. movement
  5. region
- Students will recognize the connection which exists between social studies, history, geography AND literature, art, music and theology.
- Students will identify and utilize community resources.
- Students will demonstrate a working knowledge of world, national, state and local history and geography.
- Students will show interest in daily events occurring locally, nationally and globally.

## SPANISH SCHOOL WIDE GOALS

(from the National Standards for Foreign Language Learning)

- Students will engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions.
- Students will understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics.
- Students will present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and perspectives of the culture studied.
- Students will demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the products and perspectives of the culture studied.
- Students will reinforce and further their knowledge of other disciplines through the foreign language.
- Students will acquire information and recognize the distinctive viewpoints that are only available through the foreign language and its culture.
- Students will demonstrate understanding of the nature of language through comparison of the language studied and their own.
- Students will demonstrate understanding of the concept of culture through comparisons of the cultures studied and their own.
- Students will use the language both within and beyond the school setting.
- Students will show evidence of becoming life-long learners by using the language for personal enjoyment and enrichment.

## LEARNING CONSULTANT

The Learning Consultant is responsible for monitoring students with learning disabilities, language disorders, Attention Deficit Disorder, and other medical conditions in accordance with the Archdiocese and Special School District.

It is essential for the Learning Consultant to be responsible for:

- Reviewing diagnostic and evaluation reports
- Developing student profiles from service plans and modifying them as necessary
- Meeting with teachers, parents/guardians, and students to review and explain profiles and service plans, and to recommend specific instructional and learning strategies
- Monitoring teacher's implementation of strategies
- Providing information to teachers, parents/guardians, administrators and students in related areas
- Serving as an advocate for students and parents/guardians
- Educating students and parents/guardians to advocate for themselves
- Maintaining regular communication with tutors and other specialists who work with students outside the classroom setting
- Attending review meetings held by agencies (Archdiocesan Special Education Department, Special School District, etc.)
- Networking services within the community
- Reviewing diagnostic evaluation of incoming students
- Reviewing high school curriculum for all transferring students with special needs
- Screening referred students for the presence of a learning disability and notifying the parents/guardians
- Coordinating the completion of parents/guardians initiated referral packets and forwarding the packets to the appropriate agencies
- Organizing standardized testing (ITBS/CogAt) for students with special needs and arranging for accommodation in the administration of these tests

The Learning Consultant meets with classroom teachers to discuss and analyze the learning profiles of their students with special needs. At this time, they explore learning strategies, modifications, and accommodations that hold promise for facilitating the student's success.

Some methods for facilitating this communication include:

- Meeting periodically before and after school
- Meeting during preparation and planning time
- Teachers providing the Learning Consultant with test copies and study guides
- Teachers providing the Learning Consultant with work samples, progress reports, and weekly reports
- Assessing instructional strategies periodically
- Evaluating students who are experiencing difficulty prior to scheduling a parent/guardian conference or initiating contact
- Referring students who are experiencing difficulties related to or affecting learning but who have not been previously identified

The Learning Consultant should be present at the initial parent/guardian meeting of the school year and should be available to answer questions. The Consultant should meet with parents/guardians of students with identified special needs to clarify how services will be provided. Parents/guardians should also be informed of relevant community resources.

# LIBRARIAN

These aspects of support are given to the school community by the Librarian.

Student Centered:

The Librarian will:

- Promote reading throughout the school, especially for pleasure and information gathering, with an emphasis on that which strengthens religious teachings.
- Hold Story Time to enhance reading selections, both fiction and non-fiction, used within the classrooms, give a model of oral reading, provide a practical application of reading skills by students through listening, identification of reading topics, and clarification of unfamiliar vocabulary.
- Recommend appropriate reading materials to individual students to entertain, inspire, and challenge.
- Provide students with the opportunity to apply research skills using both print materials and electronic technology.
- Teach library skills and provide opportunities for application of these skills.

Collaboration with the School Community:

The Librarian will:

- Organize the efficient administration of the library so that books and materials are readily available to students, teachers, and parents.
- Select and purchase books containing high literary content and accurate non-fiction information pertaining to topics covered in the content curriculum for all levels and for study, inspiration, and recreational reading.
- Investigate and provide resources and assistance to teachers such as:
  - Lists of related books for content material taught
  - Lists of related books for themes taught
  - Locate materials needed either in print or electronic versions.
- Maintain an up-to-date collection while spending within the limits of the total library budget.
- Keep students and faculty aware of quality literature such as award winners, classics, “notable” or “best” books, works of distinguished authors and illustrators.



ART  
First Grade

GRADE 1

Goals:

1. Students will create 2-D and 3-D art.
2. Students will communicate and express ideas creatively in art.
3. Students will know themes and symbols from selected cultures and artists.
4. Students will create art using a variety of materials.
5. Students will describe ideas in artworks that relate to their own experiences.
6. Students will learn appropriate art terminology for this grade level.
7. Students will learn the elements of art.

Content Topics: Knowledge/Skills/Values

- Use art materials correctly.
- Identify a variety of art materials.
- Describe how secondary colors are created.
- Make artistic choices in their work using two art elements with a specific purpose.
- Describe subject matter in artworks.
- Discuss art using appropriate art vocabulary.
- Demonstrate art skills appropriate for this grade level.
- Learn basic shaping methods using clay to create art.



# COMPUTER

## Grade One

### GOALS:

1. Identify major parts of a computer.
2. Learn that wires go from mouse, keyboard, monitor, printer to hard drive and then to power source; mouse pad necessary to use mouse correctly.
3. Become knowledgeable about computer care.
4. Learn computer skills to reinforce first grade curriculum.
5. Integrate classroom curriculum with technology.

### CONTENT TOPICS:

- Keyboard skills
- Computer terminology
- Care and use of CD's and floppy disks
- First grade curriculum
- Drawings

### RESOURCES:

Computer lab  
Classroom computers  
Windows 2000  
Various software  
SmartBoard

### HOME ACTIVITIES:

Ask your children to tell you (maybe teach you) what they learned in computer class.

Encourage your children to follow computer care guidelines: keep computer area in order; keep magnetic sources, food, and drink (etc.) away from computer.

Explain the difference between educational software and games that are made for computers.

Encourage your children to use a draw or paint program and save their work on their own floppy disks or CDs.

Teach your children the importance of saving work on a floppy disk or CDs in case the computer crashes.

Make it possible for your children to practice keyboard skills at home if they want to.

See if your children would be interested in taking a computer class during the summer.

Make sure that your computer meets "system requirements" before you purchase new software.

Ask your friends what software and web sites that they have found helpful to their children.



LANGUAGE ARTS  
First Grade

GOALS:

1. Students will apply decoding skills, context and word study skills when reading.
2. Students will apply comprehension skills when reading different types of literature.
3. Students will use developmentally appropriate spelling and language skills when communicating in written work.
4. Students will apply critical thinking skills in oral and written language.
5. Students will show interest in different types of literature for different purposes.
6. Students will demonstrate use of Standard English in speaking and writing.
7. Students will develop critical listening skills in oral language and development.

CONTENT TOPICS:

Reading Skills

- Long and short vowels
- Phonics
  - Consonant sounds
  - Vowel sounds- long and short
  - Making words
  - Word wall
  - Consonant blends
  - Consonant digraphs
  - Contractions
  - Letter recognition
  - Upper and lower case
  - Rhyming (word banks/families)
  - Plurals
  - Patterns
  - Compound words
  - Syllable identification
  - Recognition of beginning, middle, and ending sounds
  - Association of sounds with letters
  - Application of word usage in sentences/usage of words to complete sentences
  - Identification of misspelled words
  - Correction of misspelled words
  - Identification of 'letters=sounds=words' process
- Vocabulary
- Alphabetical order
- Story analysis
- Use of Interactive Boards (Promethean/SmartBoard) to further enrich learning

## Writing

- Formation: letters, words, sentences
- Handwriting
- Writing process
  - Pre-writing
  - Draft
  - Revision
  - Edit
  - Publish

## English

- Parts of speech
- Punctuation
- Research-teacher led

## RESOURCES:

Consonant blends & diagraph game

Short & long vowels game

Dictionaries

Textbooks

Smart Boards & Computer games

## HOME ACTIVITIES:

Provide writing materials; keep a journal.

Encourage your child to write notes, letters, or stories.

Locate vocabulary words in the newspapers.

Cut out pictures of nouns and classify.

Write notes to your child.

Practice rhyming words.

Write spelling words with shaving cream.

Read a story with your child. For each important event, pause and ask your child to tell you what happened and why did it happen.

Ask your child to make up sentences about family members or pets. Then work with your child to identify nouns and verbs in the sentence.



## MATH

### First Grade

#### GOALS:

1. Students will apply addition and subtraction operation of numbers to eighteen.
2. Students will identify and name geometric shapes.
3. Students will create and interpret bar and pictograph graphs.
4. Students will identify and know the value of pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters.
5. Students will be able to solve simple word problems involving addition and subtraction.
6. Students will tell time by the hour and half hour using standard and digital clocks.
7. Students will use a variety of measurement tools involving liquids, weight, length, and fractions.
8. Students will know the days of the week and months in their order.
9. Students will understand and be able to group in tens.

#### CONTENT AREAS:

- Addition and subtraction to 20
- Two-digit addition and subtraction
- Money value
- Place value
- Identification of shapes
- Graphing
- Measurement
- Time
- Calendar
- Fractions
- Using numbers to 20 (ordering and comparing)

#### RESOURCES:

McMillan McGraw-Hill Mathematics

Cuisenaire-Powers of ten

Addition Bingo

Pegboard with patterns

Addition and Subtraction games

Beginning telling time games

Unifix cube and cards

Tangrams and cards

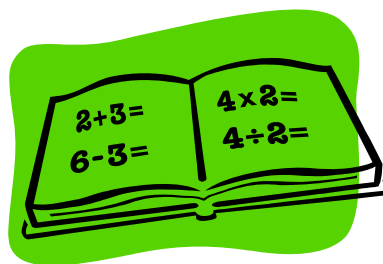
Money and cards

Pattern and Geo-blocks and cards

Vocabulary cards

Problem of the day

Overhead projector with transparencies



#### HOME ACTIVITIES:

Count the number of mail in the mailbox. Estimate how many things you can put in a grocery bag. Cut food into fractions. Use flashcards.

# MUSIC

## First Grade

### GOALS:

1. Students will identify by sight and sound the various families of instruments (string, woodwind, brass and percussion).
2. Students will listen to music with focused attention, and will identify dynamic levels, tempos, high and low pitches, and a melody line; they will use appropriate music vocabulary to describe music.
3. Students will learn about the lives, times, and contributions of various composers and the history of opera and related subjects.
4. Sing music for liturgical celebrations
5. Use hymnals
6. Learn a variety of songs
7. Use correct posture when singing
8. Use textbooks and supplemental materials
9. Hear and reproduce high/low, long/short, fast/slow, loud/soft sounds
10. Reproduce and maintain a steady beat (with and without instruments)
11. Create musical sounds to accompany songs and stories
12. Detect differences of mood in music
13. Aurally differentiate between melody alone and melody with accompaniment
14. Comprehend symbols which represent rhythmic and melodic patterns
15. Comprehend symbols which represent same and different sections of music
16. Discern changes in tempo and dynamics
17. Reproduce smooth and detached articulation
18. Increase listening ability and vocabulary for describing music
19. Show appreciation for the efforts of others
20. Use variety of resources to interrelate music and other subject areas

### CONTENT TOPICS:

- Develop musical sense and sensitivity.
- Experience use of voices in a variety of ways.
- Develop awareness of high and low tones.
- Experience sounds of different duration.
- Discover differences of fast and slow tempo.
- Encounter loud and soft dynamic levels.
- Experience simple melodic and rhythmic patterns.
- Become aware of melodic direction.
- Become familiar with sight and sound characteristics of different instruments.
- Appreciate religious, historical, and cultural aspects of music.

### RESOURCES:

Yamaha Baby Grand and Yamaha Studio Upright Pianos  
Electronic keyboard  
Tone chimes, resonator bells, glockenspiels, xylophones  
Violin  
Media Room/Smart Board  
Pitched and unpitched percussion instruments  
Large brass instruments  
Hymnals

Music textbooks  
Sacred and secular songbooks  
Octavos/anthems  
Rhythm practice books  
Metronome  
Music K-8 magazine  
Encyclopedias, Reference books  
Music-related storybooks  
Computer  
Overhead projector and screen  
Television, VCR, CD/cassette/record players  
Compact discs, cassettes, LP records, videos  
Globe, Easel  
Music-related games

#### HOME ACTIVITIES:

When using the hymnal at church, assist your child in following along.  
Make rhythm instruments from recycled materials.  
Express high, but realistic, expectations.  
Set an example by singing at church.  
Ask your child what he/she did in Music class this week.  
Talk about music used at church, weddings, sporting events.  
Participate in recitals for relatives, friends, and neighbors.  
Attend recitals of relatives, friends, and neighbors.  
Listen to a variety of music at home and in the car.  
Attend recitals of relatives, friends, and neighbors.  
Listen to a variety of music at home and in the car.  
Listen to classical music radio programs produced especially for children.  
Check out compact discs and videos (even those you may not prefer) from the public library.  
Listen to a particular piece of music and talk about the reasons you and your child may like or dislike it.  
Attend music performances at grade schools, high schools, colleges/universities, and municipalities.  
Attend performances by community bands, choruses, and orchestras, the St. Louis Philharmonic Orchestra, the Saint Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra, the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, the Fox, the Muni. Many performances are free or are very inexpensive.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION  
First Grade

GOALS:

1. Exhibit the desire to be creative and explore movement.
2. Safely and skillfully use a variety of equipment.
3. Demonstrate understanding of the importance of body control for safety.
4. Participate in sport lead up activities and skill development games for learning, exercising, and enjoyment.
5. Acquire a solid foundation, which includes knowledge of principals and practices of physical and mental health.

CONTENT TOPICS:

- Demonstrate movement concepts and principles to the learning and development of motor skill
- Acquire the principles and practices of physical and mental health
- Develop a progression from simple to complex skills
- Introduce rhythmical concepts
- Discover knowledge about taking care of the body's personal health habits
- Develop an understanding and respect for differences among people in physical activity
- Explore and maintain a health enhancing level of physical fitness.

RESOURCES:

Balls	Carpet squares	Hoops	Beanbags	Parachute
Jump ropes	Tumbling mats	Net	Bats	Scoters
Frisbees	Cones	Goals	Scoops	Paddles
Basketball	Dyna bands	Playground	Videos	CD/cassette player
Stuffed animals	Television	Physical education textbooks	Reference books	



## RELIGION First Grade

### GOALS:

1. Students will demonstrate an awareness of God's unconditional love for all creation.
2. Students will express an appreciation for their God-given gifts and talents, as well as a willingness to share gifts.
3. Students will relate scripture to their daily lives and the world today.
4. Students will participate in liturgy and prayer and exhibit appropriate church behavior.
5. Students will make choices based upon respect for themselves and others.
6. Students will participate in service projects throughout the year.

### CONTENT TOPICS:

- Commandments
- Sacrament-Baptism
- Lectionary-based scripture
- Prayer-formal and informal
- Liturgical celebrations
- Liturgical seasons
- Old and New Testament, as related to readings during Mass
- Community outreach
- Student of Saints and their Feast Days

### RESOURCES:

Sadlier Religion Program: We Believe  
Bible  
Children's Lectionary  
Children's Daily Prayer book  
Promise

### HOME ACTIVITIES:

Read Bible stories to your child  
Attend Sunday Mass  
Pray daily with your child  
Celebrate the sacraments  
Volunteer as a family to participate in Church activities



SCIENCE  
First Grade

GOALS:

1. Students will identify and show respect for conservation needs of the Earth.
2. Students will identify, compare/contrast, and distinguish among weather, climate, and seasons.
3. Students will identify, discuss basic functions, habitats, and healthful habits of living organisms on earth.

CONTENT TOPICS:

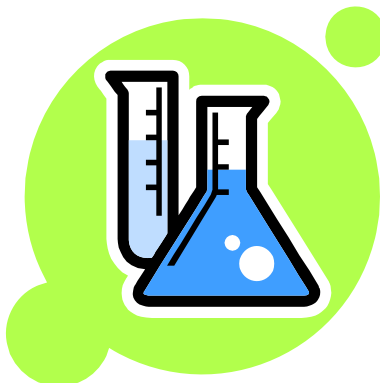
- Self (human body and hygiene)
- Life Science
- Earth Science

RESOURCES:

Classroom season charts  
Classroom weather charts  
Recycle box  
Science manipulatives  
Various books  
Scholastic News Magazine

HOME ACTIVITIES:

Visit the Saint Louis Science Center, the Magic House, the Saint Louis Zoo, Grant's Farm, Purina Farm, Suson Park and/or the Butterfly House.  
Plan and prepare nutritious meals.  
Take nature walks.  
Make daily observations of weather through the media.  
Read children's science periodicals.  
Recycle/Compost.



SOCIAL STUDIES  
First Grade

GOALS:

1. Students will demonstrate respect for diversity in families and friends.
2. Students will identify famous figures and be able to understand their historical significance.
3. Students will identify cultural and traditional practices associated with holiday celebrations.
4. Students will read maps; interpret maps, and apply basic map skills.

CONTENT TOPICS:

- Families
- Friends
- Needs and Wants
- Safety (fire)
- Holidays
  1. Thanksgiving
  2. Christmas
  3. Easter
- Famous historical figures:
  1. Johnny Appleseed
  2. Christopher Columbus
  3. Martin Luther King, Jr.
  4. George Washington
  5. Abraham Lincoln
  6. Famous Americans
- Maps, Graphs, and Charts
- Current Events – Time for Kids
- Grandparents

RESOURCES:

World Maps  
Globe  
American flag  
Teacher text  
Various books  
Scholastic News Magazine



HOME ACTIVITIES:

Look at different maps together.  
Visit various museums in the St. Louis area. Talk with your child about the significance of the documents and artifacts in the museum.  
Read historical biographies to your child.  
Experience the diversity of our country with your child. Attend fairs or celebrations in the area. Observe the customs and traditions, try the foods together.

SPANISH  
First Grade

GOALS:

1. Students will engage in conversations, provide and obtain information, express feelings and emotions, and exchange opinions.
2. Students will understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics.
3. Students will present information, concepts, and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on a variety of topics.
4. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and perspectives of the culture studied.
5. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the products and perspectives of the culture studied.
6. Students will reinforce and further their knowledge of other disciplines through the foreign language.
7. Students will acquire information and recognize the distinctive viewpoints that are only available through the foreign language and its culture.
8. Students will demonstrate understanding of the nature of language through comparison of the language studied and their own.
9. Students will demonstrate understanding of the concept of culture through comparisons of the cultures studied and their own.
10. Students will use the language both within and beyond the school setting.
11. Students will show evidence of becoming life-long learners by using the language for personal enjoyment and enrichment.

CONTENT TOPICS:

- Greetings, polite words, introductions
- Numbers 0-20
- Colors
- Classroom objects
- Food
- Clothing
- The face
- Family
- Animals
- Community
- Alphabet
- Sign of the Cross, Hail Mary
- Songs and games
- Holidays and celebrations

RESOURCES:

Teach Them Spanish (McGraw-Hill) First-Grade

Storybooks  
Maps, globe  
Spanish/English dictionary  
Games  
Flashcards  
Transparencies and overhead projector  
Travel brochures  
Posters, photographs  
Television, VCR  
Videos  
CD/cassette player  
Compact discs, audiotapes  
Computer lab  
Pinatas, sombreros, other Mexican souvenirs

#### HOME ACTIVITIES:

Ask your child to teach you prayers in Spanish to say together.  
Attend the St. Joseph Parish Spanish Mass.  
Make flashcards together of vocabulary your child has learned in class and practice with him/her.  
Go to Mexican restaurants for a meal; prepare one at home.  
Visit the Hispanic festival held in August in Downtown St. Louis.  
Visit U.S. cities/states/countries where Spanish is spoken.  
Read articles about culture and current events in Spanish speaking countries in magazines and newspapers.  
Watch a Spanish cable channel or listen to a Spanish radio station.  
Play scrabble using Spanish words.  
Play “I Spy” (Veo algo) game with Spanish words for colors, objects, etc.  
Check the “get out” section of the [St. Louis Post Dispatch](#) for multicultural Events and fairs to enjoy during the year.  
Explore foreign language and cultural websites on the Internet.  
Use Public Library resources, rent, or buy some CD roms (e.g. “Language Starter”, “My First 1000 words in Spanish”) for extra practice.  
Write to a pen pal in a Spanish-speaking country.

